



This monthly newsletter contains information on meetings, conferences, trainings, available grants and loans, employment opportunities and miscellaneous information. Input and feedback are appreciated. For information, contact M. Castain 415-972-3264; email castain.maria@epa.gov or visit Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/newslet.html>.

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9, San Francisco, California

September 2006

Tribal Program Newsletter

Meetings and Conferences

Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency



Desert Rock Proposed Clean Air Act Permit and Public Information Meetings

EPA is making available for review a proposed Clean Air Act PSD permit that, if finalized, would authorize Sithe Global Power, LLC to construct a 1500 megawatt coal fired power plant, called the Desert Rock Energy Facility. The plant would be located on the Navajo Nation about 22 miles from Shiprock, NM. EPA will hold public information meetings as listed below. EPA will also hold a public hearing in the Navajo Nation at Shiprock, NM on October 4. For more information, please see go to the following Web site:

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/air/permit/desertrock> or call Ed Pike at 415-972-3970.

Sep 12	Hearing on Clean Air Act PSD permits	Window Rock, AZ	Ed Pike, 415-972-3970 or go to http://www.epa.gov/region09/air/permit/desertrock
Sep 13	Same as above	Sanostee, NM	Ed Pike, 415-972-3970 or go to Web site listed above.
Sep 13	Same as above	Burnham, NM	Ed Pike, 415-972-3970 or go to Web site listed above.
Sep 14	Same as above	Durango, CO	Ed Pike, 415-972-3970 or go to Web site listed above.

Other EPA Sponsored Meetings and Conferences

Sep 24-28	National Forum on Tribal Environmental Science	Ocean Shores, WA	http://www.scgcorp.com/TribalScience
Sep 28-30	West Coast Green Residential Building Conference	San Francisco, CA	Elizabeth Forsyth, 415-972-3380, forsyth.elizabeth@epa.gov (3 free registrations to be raffled)
Oct 22-25	National Recycling Coalition Annual Congress and Expo, R5	Atlanta, GA	http://www.recyclingconference.org Scholarship money is available to all regions.
Oct 30-31	RTOC, Region 9	San Francisco, CA	Hillary Hecht (415) 972-3790 or email Hecht.Hillary@epa.gov
Nov 1-3	14 th Annual Tribal Conference, Region 9	San Francisco, CA	Lela Christensen, 775-574-1000, ext, 245 lgleyva@plpt.nsn.us or visit www.plp.nsn.us

**Sponsor: National Congress of American Indians**

Oct 1-6	63 rd NCAI Annual Meeting	Sacramento, CA	Jamie Gomez (202) 466-7767 or jgomez@ncai.org
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**Sponsor: Arizona Emergency Response Commission (AZSERC)**

Oct. 17-18	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act (EPCRA)	Casa Grande, AZ	Dan.Roe@azdema.gov 602-231-6345 or go to http://www.dem.state.az.us/azserc
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Sponsor: Pyramid Lake Paiute and Region 9

Nov 7-9	National Tribal Invasive Species Conference (NTISC)	Sparks, NV	Robin Powell, 775-574-0101, ext. 34 rpowell@plpt.nsn.us
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**Sponsor: Rural Community Assistance Corporation**

Feb 26–Mar 1	National RCAP Conference	Long Beach, CA	http://www.rcac.org
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Trainings

**Sponsor: Environmental Protection Agency**

Nov 15-17	2 nd Annual National Training Workshop for Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE)	Seattle, WA	http://www.cleanairinfo.com/care
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EPA Mold Web Course

There is a new learning tool designed to help tribes learn more about preventing and removing mold. This free web course is for environmental and public health professionals. For more information, contact Louise Hill at 415-947-4192 or go to <http://www.epa.gov/mold>

**Sponsor: Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals**

Sep 11-15	Introduction to Tribal Air Quality and Computations (Level 1)	Flagstaff, AZ	928-523-9555 http://www.nau.edu/itep
Oct 2-6	Air Pollution Technology (Tech) (Level 2)	Las Vegas, NV	702-784-8264; Attn: Lee Anderson

For a complete listing of course catalog, please go to: <http://www4.nau.edu/itep/trainings/aiaqtp.asp> or, call Lydia Scheer, Training Coordinator: 928-523-.6887

**Governor's Office of Planning and Research**

Sep 14	Senate Bill 18 Training Session	Bakersfield, CA	Cuauhtemoc Gonzalez, 916-445-0613 cuauhtemoc.gonzalez@opr.ca.gov or visit: http://www.opr.ca.gov .
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Sponsor: Pyramid Lake Paiute and EPA Region 9

Sep 19-21	Financial Administrative Workshop	Flagstaff, AZ	http://www.plpt.nsn.us Lela Christensen, 775-574-1000
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Sponsor: National Enforcement Training Institute (NETI)

EPA's NETI online training resource site provides access to course registration, training products, online classrooms, and e-mail updates. If you have any questions, call Arthur Totten 202-564-7164; fax: 202-564-0072; email: totten.arthur@epa.gov or contact the following Web site: <http://www.envirofieldschool.com>. Visit <http://www.netionline.com> for the most up-to-date list of enforcement and compliance courses offered by EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

Sep12-14	Enforcement Teamwork: Regulations to Resolutions	New York, NY	http://www.netionline.com
Sep 12	FED 104	New York, NY	http://www.netionline.com
Oct (TBD)	CER 105	Chicago, IL	http://www.netionline.com

Sponsor: Northwest Environmental Training Center

Sep 13-14	Contaminant Chemistry and Transport in Soil and Groundwater	Helena, MT	http://www.nwetc.org
Sep 18-22	Introduction to Engineered Log Jam Technology and Applications for Erosion Control and Fish Habitat	La Push, WA	http://www.nwetc.org/hyd-501_09-06_peninsula.htm
Oct 4-5	Contaminant Chemistry and Transport in Soil and Groundwater	Anchorage, AK	http://www.nwetc.org/
Oct. 17	Fundamental Contaminant Chemistry	Sacramento, CA	http://www.nwetc.org/
Oct. 18-19	Contaminant Chemistry and Transport in Soil and Groundwater	Sacramento, CA	http://www.nwetc.org/

Nielsen Environmental Field School

Contact the Nielsen Environmental Field info@envirofieldschool.com for the most comprehensive classes on ground-water sampling or go to www.envirofieldschool.com for course outlines

Bill Helmich Associates Training Seminars

A brochure for training seminars is available from Bill Helmich Associates, P. O. Box 789, Sandia Park, NM 87047 505-281-9884 or visit: <http://www.billhelmichassociates.com>

Grants and Loans

Financial Opportunities from the Western Regional Office, Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE)

EERE financial opportunities for tribes are managed by the Golden Field Office and detailed on the Tribal Energy Program Web site. This program provides financial and technical assistance to tribes for feasibility studies and shares the cost of implementing sustainable renewable energy installations on tribal lands. For more information go to: <http://www.eere.energy.gov/financing/> or <http://www.grants.gov>

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)



Grants.gov

Competitive and state mandatory grant applications may now be submitted electronically by going to <http://www.grants.gov>. Grants.gov is the single, authoritative source for finding information on, and applying for, competitive grant opportunities. Grants.gov includes more than \$350 billion in annual grants from 26 Federal agencies. State, local, and tribal governments, colleges and universities, non-profits and other organizations have the access they need through "Grants.gov" to efficiently find grant opportunities in just one convenient online location. All applicants must complete a registration process. Additional information about registering for Grants.gov is found in Federal Register notice: January 17, 2006 (Volume 71, Number 10)



Applicants Sought for \$19 million in Watershed Grants

EPA plans to award up to \$19 million in grants to help clean up and restore the nation's waterways. Proposals must reach EPA by October 16, 2006, for capacity-building grants and November 15, 2006, for project-implementation grants. Capacity-building grants provide for education and training, whereas implementation grants involve actions such as protection and preservation. For more information, including submission information, please go to <http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/initiative/> or contact Carol Peterson at 202-566-1304 or initiative.watershed@epa.gov.



Sources, Composition, and Health Effects of Coarse Particulate Matter

EPA, as part of its Science to Achieve Results (STAR) program, is seeking applications proposing studies of thoracic coarse particulate matter (PM10-2.5); its sources, composition, variability and health effects. This grant is aimed at tribal air programs, colleges or health providers. The closing date for proposal submittals is 4:00 P.M. Eastern Time, October 12, 2006. For more information to go:

http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2006/2006_star_coarse_pm.html or contact Tom Barnwell 202-343-9862; email: barnwell.thomas@epa.gov



Brownfields Job Training Grants

EPA requests applications for Brownfields Job Training Grants to provide environmental job training projects that will facilitate the assessment, remediation, or preparation of brownfield sites. Projects must serve a community that currently receives, or has received, financial assistance from EPA for brownfields assessment, revolving loan fund or cleanup competitive grants. \$2 million is expected to be available and up to 10 awards are anticipated. Responses due September 8, 2006. For more information, contact Joseph Bruss at bruss.joseph@epa.gov or go to: <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/docs/grants/06-06.pdf>.

Tribal Indoor Radon Request for Proposals

EPA Region 9, Air Division, is soliciting proposals from eligible Tribes and Tribal Consortia to fund Tribal Indoor Radon Pilot Project. Proposals must demonstrate the effectiveness of reducing health risks through the development and implementation of projects for the assessment and mitigation of radon. Approximately \$250,000 of total federal funds will be available. Region 9 anticipates awarding approximately 3-4 grant agreements ranging in size from \$25,000 to \$70,000 for work to be completed in either one or two years. Responses are due September 5, 2006. Go to the following link to review the full announcement: <http://www.epa.gov/region9/funding/tribal-radon-06.html> or call Louise Hill, 415-947-4192 hill.louise@epa.gov

Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Program

EPA is requesting proposals from Region 9 Tribes (California, Arizona and Nevada) under the Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Program. This program provides the opportunity for Region 9 Tribes to obtain EPA grants for improvements to public water systems (PWS). The funding will be used to address the most significant public health threats posed by inadequate public drinking water system infrastructure. When submitting proposals, applicants can request assistance for a feasibility study or, if a study has already been completed, for construction funding. Project proposal forms (and feasibility studies, if applicable) must be postmarked by September 22, 2006. The guidance and instructions are available on the EPA Region 9 Grants website at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/rfps.html>. For more information, please contact your EPA PWS Program Manager or call Sara Jacobs at 415-972-3564.

Captain Planet Foundation

The Captain Planet Foundation provides \$500 to \$2.5K grants to help children and youth around the world work, individually and collectively, solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. There are four grant cycles a year and next deadline is September 30, 2006. For more information, go to: <http://www.captainplanetfdn.org/>

Local Governments Reimbursements (LGR)

The LGR program provides federal funds to local governments for costs related to temporary emergency measures conducted in response to releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances. The program serves as a "safety net" to provide supplemental funding (up to \$25,000 per incident) to local governments that do not have funds available to pay for these response actions. Eligible local governments include cities, towns, townships, counties, and federally-recognized Indian Tribes, among others. Typical incidents include transportation accidents, abandoned drums, former methamphetamine labs, chemical spills and accidents, as well as threats that any hazardous substance may be released. If local hazardous material responders incurred expenses to an incident on tribal lands or within their jurisdiction, tribes may seek cost reimbursement from the EPA within one year of the response. The Region 9 contact for the LGR program is Hedy Salter at 415-972-3046. Further information on the program can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/er/lgr/index.htm>; or by calling the LGR Helpline at 800-431-9209 and asking for an application package to keep on hand. For additional information about these procedures contact Daniel Meer at 415- 972-3132 or by email at meer.daniel@epa.gov.

EPA Region 9 Water Infrastructure Loans Available to Tribes

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loans are innovative methods of financing a range of water quality and safe drinking water projects. Under the CWSRF & DWSRF programs, EPA Region 9 provides grants or "seed money" to the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada to capitalize individual state CWSRF and DWSRF loan funds. The states, in turn, make loans to communities, and individuals, for high-priority water quality and drinking water activities. Tribes are also eligible to receive CWSRF and DWSRF loans from the states. The programs are managed by the states, and loans or other types of assistance for water quality and drinking water projects are distributed according to each state's program and priorities. Eligible projects under the DWSRF include installation and replacement of failing treatment facilities, eligible storage facilities and transmission and distribution systems. Projects to consolidate water supplies may also be eligible. CWSRF loans are used to build or improve wastewater treatment plants, to develop or implement estuary improvement projects, and to implement

nonpoint source pollution control activities. For more state specific information about the CWSRF and DWSRF programs, visit the U.S. EPA, Region 9 Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water>

Indian Country Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Multi-Year Cleanup Initiative

EPA Region 9 recently announced the Indian Country LUST multi-year cleanup initiative. Using LUST trust funds, EPA will pay for site assessments and cleanups on LUST sites on tribal lands. EPA has contracted a Native Alaskan-owned firm, Bristol Environmental, to assist with the work. EPA has identified more than 200 LUST sites on the lands of 17 different tribes. Further sites may be identified as the work progresses. For more information, please contact Carl Warren, UST Program Office, at (415) 972-3355 or email to: warren.carl@epa.gov

Smart Growth Implementation Assistance

The Development, Community and Environment Division in EPA's Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation is seeking applications from communities that want to develop ways to meet environmental community goals. A team of multidisciplinary experts will provide technical assistance to communities that are selected. For more information and application materials call Mary Kay (Santore) Bailey, (202) 566-2859 or go to: http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/sg_implementation.html

Office of Homeland Security (OHS)

The California Homeland Security has about \$300M of FY 03/04 money that will be rescinded if not spent by September 30, 2006. The money must be used for emergency preparedness/response, such as breathing apparatus for fire departments and first responder equipment. A short proposal can be emailed to glenn.sadler1@us.army.mil. For more information, contact Glenn Sadler, Tribal Liaison, OHS, at 916-324-9223 (desk), 916-826-6874 (cell). Again, the deadline is September 30, 2006.

Environmental Justice Small Grants Program (EJSG)

Tribal representatives of a nonprofit organization may apply for a grant to address local environmental hazards through community partnerships. The EJSG Program is a multi-statute program designed to help communities understand and address their exposure to multiple environmental harms and risks. Deadline for applications is October 23, 2006. For more information go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=10091>

U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)



Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI)

RCDI requests applications from qualified intermediary organizations to provide financial and technical assistance to recipient organizations to develop their capacity and ability to undertake rural projects related to housing, community facilities, or community and economic development. \$6 million is expected to be available and the award range is from \$50K to \$399K. Responses are due October 10, 2006. For more information, go to: <http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=10294>

Water Infrastructure Funding

USDA Rural Development has water infrastructure funding available for tribes under the Native American Grants program. This year, \$16.3M is available nationwide. Eligible tribes must have a per capita income of no more than \$15,110, an unemployment rate of at least 6.25%, and a documented public health or environmental need. Click on the state office link: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/2006funding.htm>. California tribes may also call Dave Hartwell at (503) 792-5817.

Integrated Waste Management Board

The Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Programs provide funding from the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) for cleanup of illegal solid waste sites on farm or ranch property. Grants are limited to \$50,000 per cleanup or abatement project with a limit of \$200,000 per

year for each eligible applicant. Only cities, counties, resource conservation districts and Native American tribes may apply. There are no specific filing dates; grant applications are accepted continuously and reviewed on a quarterly basis. General information and an application package are available on Web site: <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov> or by calling (916) 341-6316

Wal-Mart and Land Conservation

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. and the National Fish and the Wildlife Foundation request proposals for Acres for America. This program provides funding for projects that conserve important habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants through acquisition of real property. The goal of the program is to offset the footprint of Wal-Mart's domestic facilities on at least an acre-by-acre basis. Approximately \$2.5 million expected to be available annually through 2014. Annual pre-proposals are required and are due April 1 and September 1, annual full proposals due June 1 and November 1. For more information, go to: <http://www.nfwf.org/programs/acresforamerica/rfp.cfm>.

Housing and Community Development in California

Grants are available to cities and counties to fund housing and community development activities. Applicants that do not receive Community Development Block Grant Program funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) are eligible. Eligible activities include new construction and rehabilitation of housing, community facilities, infrastructures, and public services. A set-aside allocation of funds is awarded to projects serving Native Americans who do not belong to a federally recognized Indian tribe or Rancheria. Another set-aside of funds is awarded to non-entitlement communities (colonias) located within 150 miles of the California/Mexico border. For more information, call Allen Jones (916) 319-8402 or email ajones@hcd.ca.gov

California Bay-Delta Authority Science Grants

This program seeks to invest in projects that develop new knowledge about how water use and management activities interact with and affect key aquatic species and environmental processes across spatial and temporal scales. The geographic areas of interest are the San Francisco Bay Estuary and the Bay-Delta System. To access detailed information about this opportunity, visit: <http://www.solicitation.calwater.ca.gov> or call the Cal Water Helpline at (877) 408-9310.

California Endowment Program

The California Endowment is pleased to offer a new Grant Application Guide for prospective applicants. Several changes have been made in application procedures to better focus resources to make lasting improvements in the health of Californians. In conjunction with the launch, The Endowment is also hosting a series of information sessions throughout the state. For more information, please go to <http://www.calendow.org> or call (800) 449-4149.

Funding Sources for Communities

A grants list of the updated version to the Funding Sources for Communities matrix can be viewed by going to the following Web address: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>
For more information, call Jessica Counts (415) 972-3288.

Employment Opportunities



National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC)

NTEC has an opening for an Executive Director in Albuquerque, NM; with the potential to relocate the organization to Washington, DC to be housed in the Embassy of Nations within the next year or two. The Executive Director of NTEC is responsible for fulfilling the mission statement and developing, revising and implementing strategic planning to advance the capabilities of tribal governments in their efforts to protect and regulate environmental quality on Indian and Native land. Salary depends on experience and the closing date is September 30, 2006. Please send your resume to NTEC, 2501 Rio Grande Blvd., NW Suite A, Albuquerque, NM 87104 or call 505-242-2175; Fax 505-242-2654

**Hydrologist – Non-Point Source Coordinator**

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, Pablo, MT has an opening in their Natural Resource Department. For more information, contact Rich Janssen at 406-675-2700, ext. 7260 or email: julianat@cskt.org

**Environmental Coordinator**

The Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians has an opening for an environmental coordinator. The person hired will be responsible for the development, analyses, and coordination of the environmental and water departments. The ideal candidate must be able to work in a team environment and be a self-starter, with little supervision, must be computer literate (knowledge of Microsoft Office, GIS a plus), must have experience with analytical chemistry and/or microbiology, and must have excellent communication skills. The salary will depend on experience and this position will remain opened until filled. Send your resumes to: Debra Breidenbach-Sterling, Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, P. O. Box 846, Coachella, CA 92236 or email dsterling@augustinetribe.com

Environmental Assistant

The Resighini Rancheria has an opening for an environmental assistant. This is a full time position and salary is dependent on experience. For more information, please contact Phil Smith, 707-482-3413 or email psmith@resighini.us Required Special Qualifications: Valid Class C California State Driver's license. A reliable vehicle is required and a willingness to use said vehicle on the job according to the Tribe's Vehicle Policy.

Air Quality Compliance Specialist

The Cabazon Environmental Department has an opening in the Air Quality Program. The person will be responsible for conducting, monitoring and testing activities as necessary for air quality regulatory compliance. For more information, contact Jim Bullard, Cabazon Human Resources Department at bullard@cabazonindians-nsn.gov or call 760-342-2593 ext, 84879.

Tribal District Coordinator

The Central Valley Tribal Environmental Consortium (CVTEC), Fresno, CA, has an opening for a part time (20 hours a week) Tribal District Coordinator. This position is under the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service and is part of the older worker employee program (applicants must be over 55 year old). The hourly wage is \$11.75. Visit <http://www.acesproject.org> and click on "APPLICANTS" at the bottom of the home page for detailed information and application form.

Senior Planner

The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians has an opening for a Senior Planner. This candidate will perform a variety of professional planning activities including: review of development and land use applications, zoning, research, site plan and environmental review. Applicant must have an advanced degree in city, urban or environmental planning, architecture, or a related field and two years experience in the field. Must have excellent analytical skills and written communication skills. If interested in this position please email your cover letter and resume to mgomez@aguacaliente.net or call (760)-883-1345 for more information

Miscellaneous Items**Native American Political Leadership**

Applications are now being accepted for the spring 2007 Native American Political Leadership Program. The deadline to apply is October 1, 2006. The Web site features more information and the application details: <http://www.gwu.edu/~siw/naplp/index.htm>



Tribal Based Environmental Protection (TBEP)

The TBEP group, made up of the five tribes in Maine, has a Web site for lead awareness that is of interest. To access this Web site, go to <http://www.tbep.net>



American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO)

AIEO has published the first EPA Tribal Program Enterprise Architecture (TPEA) tribal data newsletter. The purpose for this quarterly newsletter is to publish information about the work of TPEA. AIEO hopes to develop partnerships with parties that are interested in sharing information and ongoing experiences with data collection and information management. To view this newsletter click on <http://www.epa.gov/indian/new.htm> or to obtain copies email liu.ed@epa.gov or call 202-564-0287.



Pesticide Subcommittee Meeting

The first meeting of the new Region 9 RTOC Pesticide Sub-Committee was held on August 3, 2006. Participating tribes described their pesticide concerns and asked questions regarding the kinds of support the EPA Pesticide Office can provide. At the end of the discussion, the tribes and EPA agreed that another Pesticide Sub-Committee meeting will be held at the Region 9 RTOC meeting scheduled for October 31. At that time, Region 9 will briefly explain EPA's Pesticide Program and the various kinds of outreach and education materials that are available. The tribal contact is Robin Powell at Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. The EPA Region 9 contact is Pam Cooper who can be reached at 415-947-4217.



Women of the Earth

The Yves Rocher Foundation is accepting applications for the Terre de Femmes "Women of the Earth" Awards from the United States. The awards are designed to honor women who make the world a greener place through their actions and programs. Any woman age 18 and above who is working on a program that benefits nature and humankind is eligible and encouraged to submit an application. Three women will receive cash awards, \$7K for first, and \$5K for second and \$3K for third place. First place winner will be taken to Paris, France to compete in the International Women of the Earth Awards to be held on March 8, 2007. Responses due October 31, 2006. For more information, go to: <http://www.yves-rocher-fondation.org/>.



Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM)

The Grants Administration Division (GAD) of OARM is issuing a Statement of Work (SOW) to provide administrative and financial systems assistance and advice to Tribes. They are particularly interested in SBA 8(A) firms. This SOW is the one for which GAD has allotted yearly funding. Annual funding levels are anticipated between \$200,000 and \$400,000, with actual levels depending on the Agency's budget situation. It also could go higher in the event that other programs would like to join forces and supply funds as well. If anyone has any questions, please contact Glen Langlois at 202-564-5296 or via email at langlois.glen@epa.gov.

Draft Guidance for Implementing Executive Order 13175

Public comment to Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments has been extended to September 19, 2006. For more information, contact Joan Crawford, 202-564-6568; e-mail: crawford.joan@epa.gov or Jose Aguto, (202) 564-0289, aguto.jose@epa.gov

2006 "Tribal Water Quality Accomplishments" booklet now available

The Water Division, Tribal Office, with the help of Region 9 tribes, created a booklet which highlights the accomplishments of tribal water pollution control programs in the Pacific Southwest. Please visit our website at: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/tribal-cwa.html>, and click on the "NEW Tribal Accomplishments 2006"

link under the "Water Pollution Control Program" section. If you have any questions/comments regarding this publication, contact Jared Vollmer at 415-972-3447, or email at vollmer.jared@epa.gov.

Internet system gives access to soil survey information

A new interactive web soil survey site now provides public access to soils information that contributes to every aspect of public and private land use and development. This site provides critical soils information for land developers, farmers, home buyers, and city planners. The Natural Resource Conservation Service has soils maps and data available online for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties and anticipates having 100 percent in the near future. The site will be updated and maintained online as the single authoritative source of soil survey information. To view the Web site go to <http://soils.usda.gov/survey>

Indian Health Service (IHS) Web-based Sanitation Deficiency System (SDS)

IHS selects tribal drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste construction projects for funding every year from their SDS list. This list is accessible on the Internet at <https://wstars.ihs.gov> through a Public Login. To review a list of tribal projects on the SDS list, including their relative ranking, select an IHS Area and run a report of the SDS one-line listing. If you know of a tribal infrastructure need that should be included on the SDS list, but is not, contact your local IHS Office of Environmental Health to learn how the list is updated for your tribe.

Scrap Tire Cleanup Guidebook

In an effort to reduce scrap tire piles around the country, EPA and the state of Illinois have created the Scrap Tire Cleanup Guidebook, A Resource for Solid Waste Managers across the United States. It is estimated that more than 290 million tires are scrapped each year in the United States. While 80 per cent are being reused, millions have been accumulating in stockpiles over the past several decades. Large scrap tire stockpiles present a risk to human health and the environment. State, federal and local agencies have spent tens of millions of dollars over the past few decades responding to tire fires. The guidebook is rich with case studies highlighting many success stories. It can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/reg5rcra/wptdiv/solidwaste/tires/guidance>.

National Response Center (NRC):

The NRC is the sole federal point of contact for reporting oil and chemical spills. To report a spill, contact 1-800-424-8802 or 1-202-267-2675 or visit their Web page at: <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil> and click on services and web reports. The NRC operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Procedures for Accessing EPA Resources for Emergency Responses to Hazards Materials Incidents on Tribal or Federal Lands in AZ

Call 9-1-1 first. Then notify the National Response Center at 1 800-424-8802. A tribe can also notify Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) at 602-390-7894 or 602-771-2330. If it is a transportation-related spill, call 602-223-2212 at the Arizona Department of Public Safety. In addition, local jurisdictions need to be notified of the incident. If ADEQ is unable to respond to a hazardous materials incident on tribal and federal lands, contact the National Response Center at 800-424-8802, and ask for the EPA Region 9 Duty Officer. EPA has On-Scene Coordinators placed in San Francisco, and Los Angeles, California, and Carson City, Nevada who can provide timely response to a hazardous materials incident in Arizona.

Inspector Credentials

Compliance assurance in Indian country is a national EPA priority. Region 9 is working toward improvement of the capacity of tribes to implement compliance assurance and enforcement programs by providing training for tribal environmental professionals and authorizing tribal inspectors to do federal inspections. Region 9 has increased the number of authorized inspectors from 3 to 7 and has Authorization Agreements in place with Navajo Nation for the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), and with the Salt River-Pima Tribe for FIFRA. Additional opportunities are being developed to increase the number of credentialed tribal inspectors. For more information, please contact Angela Baranco, 415-947-4262 or baranco.angela@epa.gov.

Alameda County Computer Resource Center (ACCRC)

James Burgett, ACCRC, won an individual environmental award from EPA on April 18, 2006. His non-profit company recycles computers and gives free computers to schools, non-profits, and disadvantaged individuals. He can supply free computers to tribal members and tribal schools. However, there are some limitations to the computers. The key one is that it operates on Linux (which is free) rather than Microsoft Windows. That should not be an obstacle if someone wants to access the internet or do simple things. Desk top computers as well as notebooks are available. For more information, go to <http://www.accrc.org> or call him at 510-528-4052.

EPA Guidelines and General Guidance

A "how-to" guide for implementing EPA's Voluntary National Guidelines for Management of Onsite and Clustered (Decentralized) Wastewater Treatment Systems is final. The guide describes a step-by-step approach for the development of a community management program for decentralized wastewater systems. It includes specific community examples, gives an overview of the elements essential for sound management of these systems, and provides links to extensive resources. For more information go to:

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/owm/septic/guidelines.cfm#handbook>

Sustainable Earth Initiative (SEI) designated by EPA to help government entities address environmental challenges

Oakland-based nonprofit SEI has been designated by EPA as the Region 9 Local Resource Center, providing Environmental Management Systems (EMS) development and implementation assistance to governmental entities, including cities, counties and tribal governments. EMS is a well established tool to help local governments prevent pollution, efficiently operate and improve environmental performance within their communities. SEI provides a range of services to local governments including, training, implementation assistance and coaching. SEI co-founders Gary Lucks and Susan Sakaki offer introductory and training workshops, and related implementation assistance to tribal organizations. Call Susan Sakaki at 510-531-5377 for information on SEI. For information on the EPA program go to <http://www.peercenter.net>. For information on SEI: go to <http://www.sustainableearthinitiative.org>

Baseline Needs Assessment (BNA)

The BNA was prepared by the National Tribal Environmental Council and Rural Community Assistance Corporation under a grant from the EPA to the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California, working in conjunction with the Region 9 Tribal Caucus and the Region 9 RTOC Drinking Water/Wastewater Subcommittee. For complete details, visit the following Web site: <http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/bna/>

Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

Region 9's Criminal Investigation Division (CID) provides training to tribal governments on investigations of environmental crimes. CID can provide a short presentation on who they are and what they do, or they can provide more detailed classroom training for police officers and regulators on what to look for in environmental investigations. CID can also recommend tribal officers to a two-week training for environmental investigators at the Law Enforcement Academy in Georgia. Tribes wishing to request this training should contact Pam Overman, Tribal Program Office, at 415-972-3781 or overman.pamela@epa.gov.

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) Corner

If you are interested in the EPP corner or would like to find out more about it, please contact: Erica Yelensky: 415 972-302; yelensky.ERICA@epa.gov or the following Web sites:

<http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp>

<http://www.conservatree.com/index.shtml>

<http://es.epa.gov/new/contacts/newsletters/shopping.html>

<http://www.metrokc.gov/hazwaste/house/cleaners.html>

<http://www.stopwaste.org/home/index.asp?page=439>

Web sites for tribal programs and other federal programs

<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/consultation-approach-signed-memo.pdf>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/consultation-approach-final.pdf>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-a.pdf>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-b.pdf>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/consultation-approach-exhibit-c.pdf>
<http://www.nativeseeds.org/v2/default.php>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding/index.html>
<http://www.wapa.gov/es/pubs/fctsheets/casino%20fact%20Sheet.pdf>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/indian/res.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/grants.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/solid/indianwaste.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/ow/waterplan/tribal/index.html>
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/water/tribal/>